Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 TRSE-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 OES-07 /122 W

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R 201440Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6936 INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL MAPUTO 0499

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ESTC, ETRD, MZ, RH, SF

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED POL DIVERSIONS IN RHODESIA:

REQUEST FOR GPRM COOPERATION

REF: (A) 76 STATE 259435 (NOTAL) (B) M0759 1515 (1976) (C) 76 MAPUTO 1387 (D) 76 MAPUTO 1375 (NOTAL)

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY APRIL 20 TO ASK FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO IF GPRM HAD AS YET DECIDED WHETHER IT WOULD CO OPERATE WITH THE INVESTIGATION US TREASURY DEPARTMENT WISHED TO CONDUCT IN MOZAMBIQUE OF ALLEGED OIL SANCTION VIOLATIONS BY US OIL COMPANIES (REFTEL D). CHISSANO RE GRETTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD NOT YET RESPONDED. CONFESSED THAT HE HAD BEEN SO BUSY HE HAD NOT HAD TIME TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH HIS MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES. HE PROMISED LOOK INTO MATTER AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

2. BRITISH HAVE HAD NO MORE SUCCESS THAN WE HAVE IN ELICITING RESPONSE TO THEIR SIMILAR QUERY. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE BEEN MORE ACTIVE IN SEEKING A RESPONSE. UK AMBASSADOR LEWEN REPORTS THAT PENDING GPRM RESPONSE, THE UK CONFIDENTIAL

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INVESTIGATORBINGHAM WOULD LIKE TO COME TO MAPUTO TO EXAMINE THE RECORDS OF LOCAL SHELL/BP OFFICE, WHICH LONDON OFFICE OF SHELL HAS AUTHORIZED SOME WEEKS AGO THE BRITISH EMBASSY REQUESTED A VISA FOR BINGHAM FOR THIS LIMITED PURPOSE, BUT THE BRITISH EMBASSY IS STILL AWAITING APPROVAL.

3. COMMENT: IT CLEAR FROM DELAYS WE AND BRITISH ARE ENCOUNTERING THAT GPRM DOES NOT VIEW PURSUIT OF US AND UK INVESTIGATIONS AS AN URGENT MATTER. THE EARLIER INTEREST THAT PRESIDENTIAL AIDE SERGIO VIEIRA HAD DISPLAYED IN SUBJECT (REFTEL B) HAS WANED. WHEN I DISCUSSED MATTER WITH HIM RECENTLY HE NO LONGER SEEMED TO BE INTERESTED, AND REFFERRED ME TO CHISSANO, WHO HE SAID WAS HANDLING THIS MATTER FOR GPRM. THUS, PROSPECTS THAT GPRM WILL AGREE COOPERATE WITH INVESTIGATIONS ARE NOT AT ALL PROMISING.

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